

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-21 are pending in this application. Attached hereto is a complete listing of all claims in the application, with their current status listed parenthetically. By this Response, claims 1, 9, 14 and 17 have been amended, and claim 18 has been cancelled, without prejudice to later prosecution.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

In paragraphs 2-3 of the Office Action, pending claims 1-3 and 5-21 stand rejected as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent 6,492,897 ("Mowery"). Applicant traverses the rejection, and as claim 18 has been canceled, the rejection of that claim is now moot.

In the Office Action, the Examiner states:

"Mowery fails to particularly teach communications around or bypassing a transformer or power grid. However, Mowery, as disclosed at column 15, lines 51-55, also suggests that the communication system can be attached around the power transmission line.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Mowery for selectively communicating the UWB signals around or bypassing a transformer or power grid if desire [sic] since Mowery suggests attaching the system around the power transmission line."

Column 15, lines 51-55 of Mowery relates to the FIG. 4 "Additional Embodiment."

Mowery describes the FIG. 4 embodiment starting at col. 14, line 65. In the FIG. 4 embodiment:

"Power communication system interface 29 can send and receive data from a power transmission line 27 by an electrical path to a power transmission line 30. Power transmission line 27 is connected to electric utility distribution 31 by an electrical path to an electrical utility distribution 29. A power supply 33 is charged through a magnetic inductive coupling to an electrical path to power transmission line 30. The power supply 33 created by magnetic induction can provide electrical energy to transmitter 22, receiver 23, and power communication system 24" (col. 15, lines 22-31)

Under the "Operation" section of the FIG. 4 embodiment, Mowery states:

"The six part of this invention [sic] is a power supply that **inductively couples to a power transmission line**" (col. 15, lines 49-50)

"The additional embodiment can attach to any power transmission line by simply attaching around a power transmission line. **The additional embodiment can be supplied by power by inductively coupling to the magnetic component or electrically coupling to the power transmission line**" (col. 15, lines 51-55)

When read in context, it is clear that Col. 15, lines 51-55 of Mowery **does not teach bypassing components of a power grid, but instead teaches using inductive coupling for powering his embodiment.** And, in fact, the FIG. 4 embodiment of Mowery teaches using the power grid for communication, with absolutely no teaching or suggestion of bypassing any components of the power grid.

Also in the Office Action, the Examiner states:

Moreover, it is noted that the independent claim 1 recites communicating "around a transformer" which is not related at all to other limitations of the claim. Therefore, it is interpreted that communicating around any transformer, which is not connected to Mowery's system, will meet the claimed limitation. The same rationale is applied to independent claims 9, 14, and 17, which recite the UWB devices "positioned adjacent" to the power grid transformer or power grid apparatus. Of course, the communications will go around or bypassed if the power grid transformer or power grid apparatus is not connected (positioned adjacent) to the Mowery's system."

In an effort aimed at clarity, and not aimed at distinguishing from any cited reference(s), Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 9, 14 and 17. Specifically, "the transformer" is part of an existing power grid, as illustrated in FIG. 5, and discussed in the specification.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner reconsider and withdrawal this rejection. In view of the above discussion, Applicant respectfully submits that the Section 103 rejection of independent claims 1, 9, 14 and 17 has been traversed. Because claims 2-3, 5-8, 10-13, 15-16 and 19-21 depend from one of claims 1, 9, 14 or 17, respectively, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 2-3, 5-8, 10-13, 15-16 and 19-21 have been traversed by virtue of their dependency from one of claims 1, 9, 14 or 17. M.P.E.P. § 2143.03.

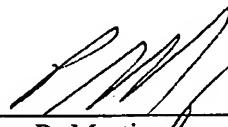
Conclusion

Applicant believes that this Response has addressed all items in the Office Action and now places the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-3, 5-17 and 19-21 at an early date is solicited. Accompanying this Response is a Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee for a three-month extension of time for a small entity to our Deposit Account No. 50-3143, in the name of Pulse-Link, Inc. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



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